

The Romulus News

OCTOBER 5, 2001 – OCTOBER 18, 2001

"the little paper"

VOLUME 15 NUMBER 6

Timely Tidbits ...

Homecoming Wrap

For the story and lots of photos on last week's Homecoming celebration at Romulus High School, see pages 7-9.

Daddy-Daughter Sweetheart Dance

The Romulus Recreation Department's annual Daddy-Daughter Sweetheart Dance will be held at Romulus High School (9650 Wayne Road) on Wednesday, October 17, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Tickets – \$7 per couple, plus \$2 for each additional daughter – include music, refreshments, a flower for each daughter, and one photograph. Tickets *must* be purchased from the Recreation office by 5 p.m. on Monday, October 15. Call 734-942-6852 for more info.

GED: It's Not Too Late

Romulus/Van Buren Adult Education is giving the GED test and starting a new set of preparation classes this month.

If you're ready to take the high-school-equivalency test, spaces are available in Saturday, daytime, and evening sessions. The fee is \$100 if you are not a Romulus/Van Buren Adult Ed student.

October and December are the last months that this test will be given, as the new version of the GED test will be implemented in January. Scores earned before January 2002 will not count towards completion of the new test.

If you need help preparing for the test, you can register for morning, afternoon, or evening GED classes that will be held in several locations in Romulus, Belleville, and Taylor beginning later this month. Classes are free if you were 20 or older on September 1.

Adult Ed is also accepting enrollments for its seven-week Certified Nurse Assistant class, which starts November 5. The class will be held four nights a week (Monday through Thursday) at Romulus High School to prepare students for their state certification exam.

Call 734-941-0616 for info. □

Romulus Schools Outperform Charter Schools on MEAP

Winter 2001 MEAP Scores* for Area Schools

	Romulus Schools	Metro Charter Academy	Summit Academy
4th-grade math	72.5**	40.0	24.7
4th-grade reading	42.3	26.7	21.5
5th-grade science	46.8**	17.4	6.7
5th-grade writing	68.8**	17.4	43.9
5th-grade social studies	7.0	2.3	0.0

*numbers represent % of students who met or exceeded the state standard

**score was above the state average (see side-bar at right)

Data recently released by the State of Michigan shows that elementary-age students attending Romulus Community Schools averaged significantly higher scores on the Winter 2001 Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) than students attending Metro Charter Academy of Romulus and Summit Academy in Brownstown.

"The Romulus school district has established itself as the clear educational leader in the local area," said Joel R. Carr, Superintendent of Schools. "We fully intend to be competitive and offer the best educational program possible."

Carr believes that the big difference in scores indicates that his district's

specially designed programs work best for the children of Romulus.

"We have many 'extra' resources to help students achieve high goals, including state-of-the-art technology, reteachers, after-school tutoring programs, summer-school programs, and individualized education plans for all sixth- and eighth-grade students."

Tom Dolan, Director of Curriculum for Romulus Community Schools, concurred, adding, "Our State-aligned curriculum, grade-level coordination, and subject strand leaders have all made major contributions to help bring about our scores."

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Scores Top State Average

Tom Dolan, Director of Curriculum for Romulus Community Schools, has announced that district elementary students taking the Winter 2001 MEAP (Michigan Educational Assessment Program) scored higher than the state average in three of five categories.

"This is the first time that the district has scored above the state average in any subject, and we are excited about the results," Dolan explained.

Tests on which Romulus exceeded the state average were:

- fourth-grade math (72.5, compared to the average of 72.3),
- fifth-grade science (46.8, compared to 41.6), and
- fifth-grade writing (68.8, compared to 61.1).

Joel R. Carr, Superintendent, was also pleased.

"The MEAP scores are indicative of the dedication, determination, and expertise of our staff," he stated. "Our teachers and principals have focused on providing the very best educational programs and opportunities for Romulus children, and these scores show the results of their efforts."

Dolan had high praise for district staff and programs.

"The MEAP scores are an outcome of our extensive preparations on many fronts. We have aligned the curriculum to state benchmarks in each subject area, involved over 1,400 parents in school programs, and received the North Central Association's Transitions Accreditation for each Romulus school.

"Our summer workshops for teachers, summer-school programs, after-school tutorials, and state-leading technology programs have all combined to help us best the state averages in these three subjects," he added.

Superintendent Carr concluded by promising that the district will continue its efforts to improve in other MEAP categories, and expressing his confidence that his staff's hard work and dedication will result in future success. □

Schools Lower Taxes 1.5 Mills

On September 24, the Romulus Board of Education voted 7-0 to lower district school taxes by a total of 1.5 mills for 2002. The decision features a reduction of .8 mills on the "hold harmless" millage compared to 2001 (10.99 mills, down from 11.79 mills) and a

reduction of .7 mills on the debt fund compared to 2001 (7.5 mills, down from 8.2 mills). The 1.5-mill reduction will result in a savings of \$76 for the owner of a \$100,000 home, or \$114 for the owner of a \$150,000 home.

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Joe R. Carr (left), Superintendent of Romulus Community Schools, and Alan Lambert, President of the Board of Education, say they are pleased with the 1.5-mill tax reduction that was passed by the Board last month.

Letters to the Editor

Editor's note: All letters to the editor must contain the writer's signature and a telephone number where he/she can be reached in order to verify the letter's authenticity. Names will be withheld by request only in exceptional cases where, in our opinion, the letter's content merits anonymity.

The Romulus News reserves the right to edit all letters for clarity and, if necessary, brevity.

Reader Disputes Letter

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter in regards to Dolores Witzgall's letter (TRN, September 21, 2001).

I was at the St. Aloysius Festival for all three days and did not see Alan Lambert do anything political. He was in the dunk tank.

As for the Pumpkin Festival, I was also there for three days. His office has been open since July. Not once in three days did I see Mr. Lambert do anything political. Flags were given out for the tragedies of September 11.

E. Carroll

Flags Not Disrespectful

To the Editor:

The following letter is written in response to the letter from Dolores Witzgall (TRN, September 21, 2001).

We have always had an "open door" policy at mayoral candidate Alan Lambert's headquarters – unlike City Hall, where the "open door" policy takes up to three days!

The only thing that made Alan Lambert's participation in the Pumpkin Festival political was the American flags that were passed out to citizens. Headquarters used some flags to decorate the building out of respect for the people who lost their lives at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

How could the American flag be considered disrespectful to any U.S. citizen?

Ted A. Hall, Sr.

Personal Attacks Wrong

To the Editor:

My Dad is Alan Lambert and he is running for Mayor of Romulus. One of your readers (TRN, September 21, 2001) criticized him for campaigning during the Pumpkin Festival. I happen to believe that most City functions are political in nature. My dad would say that Mrs. Witzgall has a right to her opinion, even if we disagree. I will respect my dad's beliefs on that issue.

But, to say that my dad's deceased father and uncle would somehow be

ashamed of him is a kind of dirty politics I didn't believe was possible, not to mention completely untrue. She had no right to unleash a personal attack on my father – an attack that hurt our entire family.

How could my grandpa and my uncle be anything but proud of a man who is a veteran police officer, the president of the Romulus Board of Education, and a former Romulus City Council member? He has dedicated his entire adult life to public service.

I will save Mrs. Witzgall's letter so that my children will someday know how sleazy and petty some people can get during elections. They will also be proud of their grandpa, as I am proud of my dad.

Cary Udell

Many Seniors for Oakley

To the Editor:

Not long ago, I saw a sign that says "Seniors for Lambert" hanging at mayoral candidate Alan Lambert's headquarters on Goddard Road. I'm very glad that it doesn't say *all* seniors, because there are many of us who are staunch supporters of Mayor Bill Oakley, not Mr. Lambert.

To those senior citizens who are thinking about voting for Mr. Lambert, I ask you to consider, instead, the person who has helped us again and again throughout the years, and who was a friend to us even before it was the politically correct thing to do. For instance:

- It was during Mayor Oakley's first term of office that our then-controversial Romulus Tower senior-citizen apartments were built.
- Early in his second term, Mayor Oakley's concern for the safety of Tower residents led to the purchase of a fire truck capable of reaching the apartment building's top floor.
- It was Mayor Oakley who helped get the entire Romulus Tower apartment building wired for cable television.
- When the IGA closed its doors, Mayor Oakley's administration immediately arranged for additional transportation service for seniors left with no means to shop.
- Mayor Oakley continues to support the many fine recreational, health, safety, and service programs offered at the Romulus Senior Center.
- Mayor Oakley has lowered homeowners' city taxes a number of times. Since many senior citizens live on a fixed income, these tax savings are a real blessing to us.

So, seniors – think before you vote!
Dolores Witzgall

Patriotism Questioned

Citizens of Romulus:

I am appalled by the overall concern that Mayor William Oakley has in showing Romulus's support for our country's "State of Crisis."

"America is on Alert" (to quote MSNBC) and we are sending troops, planes, and ships daily to the Middle East. Mayor Oakley cannot find it in the budget or in his personal patriotism to do anything for our city other than join with churches in the area to erect a monument in the lobby of the High School or add a brick to the City's Veterans' Memorial for the people who lost their lives in "Ground Hero." That is a good idea for our kids to see but it does not remind our citizens on a daily basis that we *support our country*.

When I first called the Mayor's office, I asked him why the City of Wayne was putting American flags on every street light and we did not have at least one flag on one block on our main street, nor was the flag pole on the side of the High School displaying a flag. (It is as of today, September 26.)

What is this?

Mayor Oakley told me we usually go to the Veterans of Foreign Wars about getting flags, and that "there is hardly anyone there since the men are old and dying off, so we don't have access to any flags," but that if I had any other ideas, I should feel free to call his office.

When I called about putting red, white, and blue ribbons on the light posts, I was told by the Mayor's assistant, David Cox, "Darlin', if you want to do something, be pro-active. Call John at Family Pharmacy and see if they will donate the money for the ribbon and get a couple friends and tie ribbons to your heart's content."

The manager of the pharmacy turned me down, stating that every time the mayor needs something, he runs someone down for freebies, and they have to draw the line at the corporate level. They feel that the mayor could give a certificate to get the ribbon out of city funds for something this important.

I spoke with Councilperson Debbie Romak about this and about the fact that we did not have a flag at the High

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The Romulus News

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■ One of the Lowest City Tax Rates in Wayne County

2001 marks the second year in a row that Romulus city taxes have been reduced. The Oakley Administration's conservative spending policy, combined with exceptional skill and success in securing grants, has allowed the City to expand services, yet maintain one of the lowest city tax rates in Wayne County.

■ Aggressive Road Replacement

Mayor Oakley oversaw the resurfacing and construction of over 41 lane miles of roads in the last three years. Luckily for local taxpayers, much of the cost of this work was covered by grants as well as nearly \$1 million in private funds.

■ First New Subdivisions in 30 Years

The City's recent efforts to improve roads and increase minimum lot sizes have paid off. Over 1,600 new homes are now under construction in Romulus. These new "rooftops" will be a key factor in attracting new commercial development.

■ First New Municipal Building in 30 Years

Mayor Oakley negotiated construction of an award-winning Department of Public Works facility that cost Romulus taxpayers less than 10% of its actual value. It is the only municipal building to have been completed totally debt free.

■ Maintaining Public Property

Under Mayor Oakley's stewardship, Romulus takes good care of its buildings, parks, and other property, and its responsible equipment maintenance program assures many years of trouble-free service without constant replacements.

■ Excellent "Public Safety" Services

Mayor Oakley's foresight has ensured that the City's public-safety services have kept up with Romulus's booming economic growth. The Romulus Fire Department's outstanding paid-on-call staff has been "upgraded" to include eight full-time firefighters and, since its creation in 1984, the Romulus Police Department has become one of the best equipped and most highly regarded departments in Michigan.

■ Expanded Programs

During his tenure of office, Mayor Oakley has expanded a number of city services, including the senior-citizen, recreation, and anti-drug programs.

■ Metro Airport

As of August 20, 2001, the City of Romulus had collected \$986,620 in building permit fees and plan reviews from Northwest Airlines. Mayor Oakley remains committed to using every legal means to levy funds from the Airport.

■ Improved Communication

Because Mayor Oakley knows that government can't be successful without a free exchange of ideas between officials and citizens, he makes use of both local cable television and various newspapers to communicate with his constituents. He also maintains an "open door" policy at City Hall so that residents can meet with him, face to face, to discuss their concerns.

■ Broad Support

Mayor Oakley has earned the support of thousands of hard-working residents just like you, and is endorsed by both the UAW-CAP and Michigan Teamsters.

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Guest Commentary

Can Recreation Center Become a Reality?

By Barry Baumann, Candidate for City Council

I can remember way back to the election campaign of 1973, when the late Terry Troutt, then mayor of Romulus, proposed an elaborate City recreation center to the voters. It was an awesome building that would have given Romulus residents the best of everything at that time. It was soundly defeated by the voters.

Since then, we have seen magnificent recreation structures being built by communities all around our area.

Several years ago, Romulus residents were again presented with a proposal that would have increased taxes to construct a City rec center. Again, they turned it down. Yet, I believe that more voters might have considered this proposal favorably if it had not overlooked several important points.

The first concern was that there was no total cost projection. Many residents complained, understandably, that approving the proposal would be tantamount to giving the City a "blank check."

Another problem I saw was that no specific location was identified in the proposal.

Still another concern was the fact that taxpayers were given no concrete figures regarding how much it would cost to furnish, operate, and maintain the facility.

As a City Council candidate in next month's election, I would like to state my belief that Romulus needs a recreation center. However, I feel that officials must lay out any future proposals in very clear, precise terms before they can expect to receive residents' support. Personally, I believe that the proposal should include a bond issue, if possible, as well as a provision for a minimal levy to maintain the facility.

Among the most important priorities for any new facility should be a new

senior-citizen center. While our current senior facility is nice and meets the needs of today, the future holds too many questions. As the Baby Boomers continue to age, our city must be in a position to accommodate their growing needs.

Location is also crucial. Any recreation center must be convenient to all residents. One site that might prove favorable is the property where the old Romulus Junior High was located before it was torn down several years ago. Because of Metro Airport, Romulus has no true middle, but our downtown area is about as centrally located as its possible to be and it has the additional advantage of being convenient to both of our city's senior-citizen apartment complexes.

I believe that whoever is elected to office next month *must* be imaginative and insightful in dealing with this issue. I believe, as well, that our residents would support the idea of a new recreation center if it were properly developed and presented. Our leadership must be in a position to explain, in explicit terms, any proposed development. Without these considerations, I am afraid that any new proposal will meet with the same fate as the others.

Editor's note: The purpose of the "Guest Commentary" column is to provide members of the Romulus community and other interested parties with an opportunity to express their viewpoint on issues of interest to the people who live and do business here. Responsible individuals and spokespersons are invited to make use of this column, free of charge, anytime.

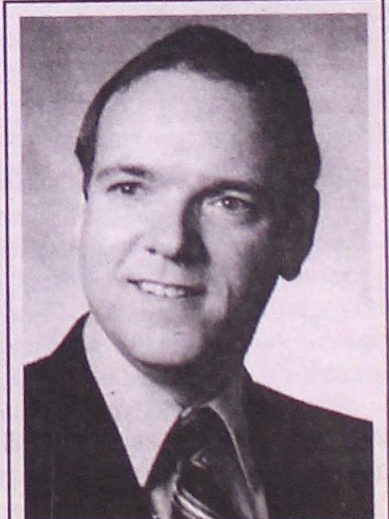
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For more information, contact Kristi Stephens, editor, at 734-941-1907. □

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Owners Say Their Pizzeria is a Slice Above the Competition



Romulus Pizzeria owners Nabil and Nabih Zourob thank the community for supporting their new restaurant.

By Rikki Strobos

"If you're looking for good food in a pleasant atmosphere, our restaurant is the place for you," says Nabil Zourob, co-owner (along with brother Nabih) of Romulus Pizzeria at 35427 Goddard Road. "Our pizza is a slice above the rest because we always use home-made dough and sauce, and our other ingredients are always fresh, never taken from a can."

Of course, pizza isn't all that the Zourobs serve. Their menu features salads, sandwiches, ribs, and chicken, as well as donuts and other snack-type offerings.

For the past five years, Nabil has owned the Mobil gas station across the street from the pizzeria, so he is no

stranger to Romulus. He says that one of the reasons he chose to open his restaurant here is because the people are both friendly and loyal.

"Over the years, I've gotten to know many of my regular customers," Nabil explained. "I always try to be friendly and give them good service, and they repay me with their smiles and their loyal support."

Nabil has been married to his beautiful wife Sandra for 11 years. They are very proud of their two children – daughter Sandra, age 10, and son Andrew, who is 7.

"I'm very family oriented," said Nabil.

Romulus Pizzeria opens daily at 5 a.m. For more information, please call 734-941-4400. □

Chamber Meets the Candidates



Mayoral candidate Alan Lambert (center) was greeted by Romulus Chamber of Commerce board members (from left) Dennis Williams, Mary Sawyer, Dave Goodwin, and Oscar Rhoton during the first of two "Meet the Candidate" luncheons on September 18. Lambert answered many questions; stated his intent to have an "open administration" that works carefully with the business community; and said that he would aggressively pursue retail business, including a local supermarket. Tickets (\$12 for members; \$14 for nonmembers) for an October 16 luncheon with incumbent Mayor William Oakley will be on sale through October 11. For information, call Chamber secretary Barbara Snyder call 734-326-4290.

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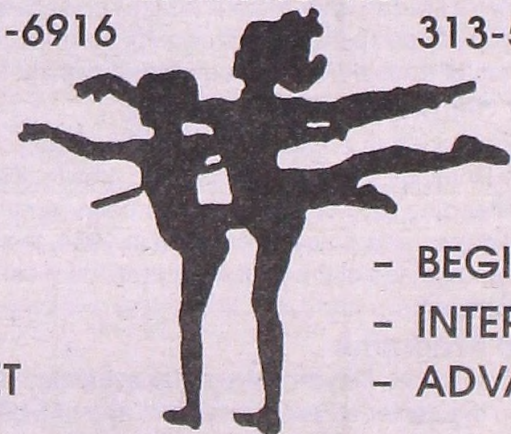
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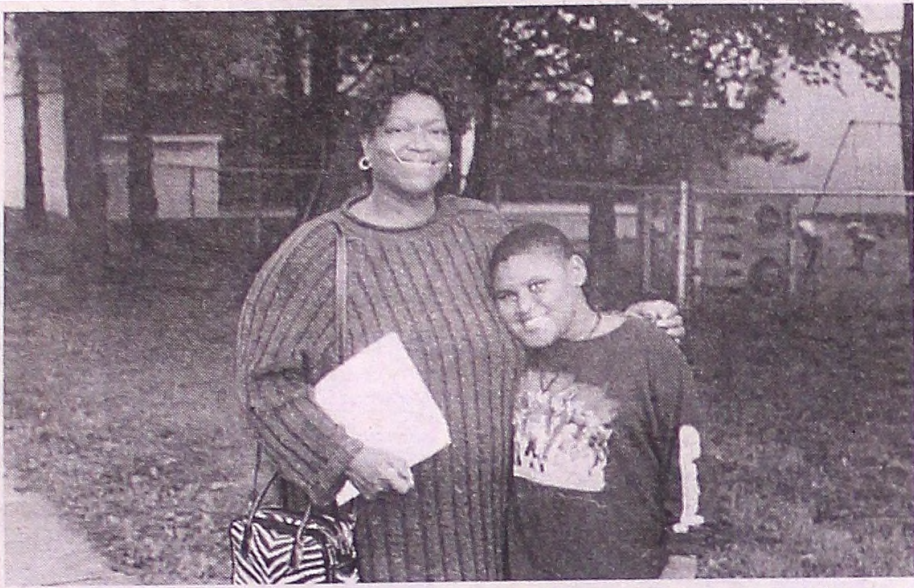
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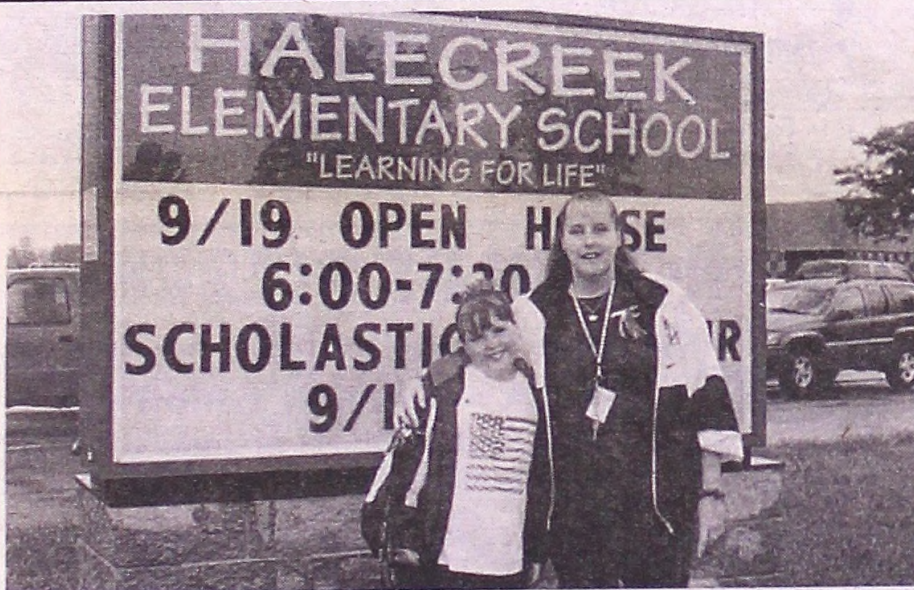
"Open House" Night



The Romulus elementary schools' "open house" programs were attended by thousands, including Barth's Lawrence Dawson and his mom, Carolyn.



Gabrielle Miller accompanied her future stepmother, Julie Campau, to Cory's open house.



Among those taking part in Halecreek's open house were Sarah Hood and her daughter, Ashlee.



Jeannie and Tony Rea visited Merriman with Julius Rea (left) and Hunter Evans.



Annette Hemphill and her daughter, Antonette, attended the Romulus Elementary program.



Ashley Lamoureux accompanied her mom, Terry, to the open house at Wick.

Schools, City Work Together for Emergency Preparedness



Preparing for an emergency: (from left) front row – Darrin Shelby, Jeffery Royal, Doug Hoffman, William Routhier, and William Oakley; back row – John Leacher, Daryl Poe, Eric Painter, Margaret Leduc, Joel Carr, Bill Garland, Daniel Hurst, and David Allison.

The Romulus Community Schools and the City of Romulus recently got together to discuss ways of preparing for possible emergencies at Romulus High School.

The meeting was conducted by Margaret Leduc, the City's Emergency Management Coordinator. As it progressed, representatives from the Police Department, the Fire Department, and the office of Mayor William Oakley interacted with District and High School administrators as various emergency situations were explained and hypothetical scenarios were played out.

Items covered included:

- evacuation plans,
- the location of school leadership officials,
- the location of chemicals throughout the building,
- the types of chemicals used to extinguish fires,
- staging areas for medical services,
- bus pickup points,
- traffic control,
- information sources (the Mayor's office, the Board office, and an informational/press area to be established at the site),
- communication methods within the building,
- use of police dogs,

- possible student lock-downs in certain parts of the building, with a code for letting police know about suspicious activities in the classrooms,
- the effects of the sprinkler system on students and facilities.

Ironically, the meeting between City and District officials was scheduled *before* the tragedy of September 11.

Among those who took part were:

- Joel R. Carr, Superintendent
- William Routhier, District Director of Business and Finance
- Jeffery Royal, Director of Special Education and District Crisis Coordinator
- Daniel Hurst, Principal, Romulus High School
- Doug Hoffman, Assistant Principal, Romulus High School
- Bill Garland, Head Custodian, Romulus High School
- Commander Eric Painter, Romulus Police Department
- Lieutenant Daryl Poe, Romulus Police Department
- Sergeant John Leacher, Romulus Police Department
- Officer Darrin Shelby, Police liaison to Romulus High School
- David Allison, Chief, Romulus Fire Department, and
- William Oakley, Mayor. □

Fall Programs at the Library

Preschool Story-time

The library's preschool story-time program is for children ages three to five who have not yet entered kindergarten but are ready for independent listening. The program features great books, finger plays, and crafts that all will enjoy.

Parents can choose between morning sessions, which will be held at 10:30 a.m. each Thursday beginning October 11 and continuing through November 15, or evening sessions, set for 7 p.m. each Tuesday

from October 9 through November 13. Although there is no charge to participate, registration is required.

Seasonal Craft Classes

Registration is required for the following one-day craft classes for children in grades K-6:

- Halloween: Saturday, October 20, 10:30 a.m.
- Thanksgiving: Saturday, November 10, 10:30 a.m.
- Christmas (a Christmas Tree Trim party open to all ages): Saturday, December 1, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. □



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RHS Enjoys Homecoming, Despite Loss To Wyandotte



King David and Queen Dana.

The Romulus High School Eagles may have been defeated by Wyandotte, 28-0, but students enjoyed Homecoming Week just the same.

"Spirit" activities included:

- dress-up days,
- a children's book drive (won by the junior class) that yielded nearly 2,000 books for district reading projects and donation to homeless shelters,
- an "Eagle drive" fund-raiser for the American Red Cross, and
- a pep rally.

Students voted for a Prince and Princess for the freshmen, sophomore, and junior classes, as well as a Homecoming King, Queen, and Court for the senior class.

The Prince/Princess winners were: Brenden Boyd and Katie Hale (freshmen), Isaiah Warren and Natasha Murray (sophomores), and Darrien Sibby and LaToya Pillow (juniors).

David Boyd and Dana Noble were the King and Queen, while Court mem-



Amanda Judy on Mix/Match Day.

bers were Roger Chapman, Jerome Gray, Fredrick Harbor, Anson Long, Kara Coughlin, Andrea Gibson, Deana Hunter, and Antoinette Price.

Perhaps appropriately, the coveted Spirit Jug was won by the seniors.

For more photos, see pages 8-9. □

Romulus

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with Coleslaw or Grilled Chicken Salad
with Free Soda: **\$4.35 + tax**

Wednesday - Spaghetti Dinner or
Mostaccioli Dinner: **\$5.99 + tax**

Thursday - Cod Dinner:
\$5.58 + tax

Friday - Wing Ding Dinner:
\$5.63 + tax

Saturday - 1 Large Pizza with One
Item plus an order of Barnstix with
cheese: **\$10.65 + tax**

Free Flavored Crust: Cajun • Garlic • Butter • Onion • Poppyseed • Sesame Seed • Parmesan Cheese

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2-ITEM PIZZAS

2 Small **\$9.99**

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Mostaccioli
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and Breadstix.

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or
FISH SANDWICH
and Get a
FREE

SODA POP



Dressing up on Pajama Day were (from left) Rebecca Thornton, Christie Davis, Jamie Morgan, Christian Hadden, and Misty Pitel.

Homecoming Parade



The Barth Elementary Bears had a large, enthusiastic group.



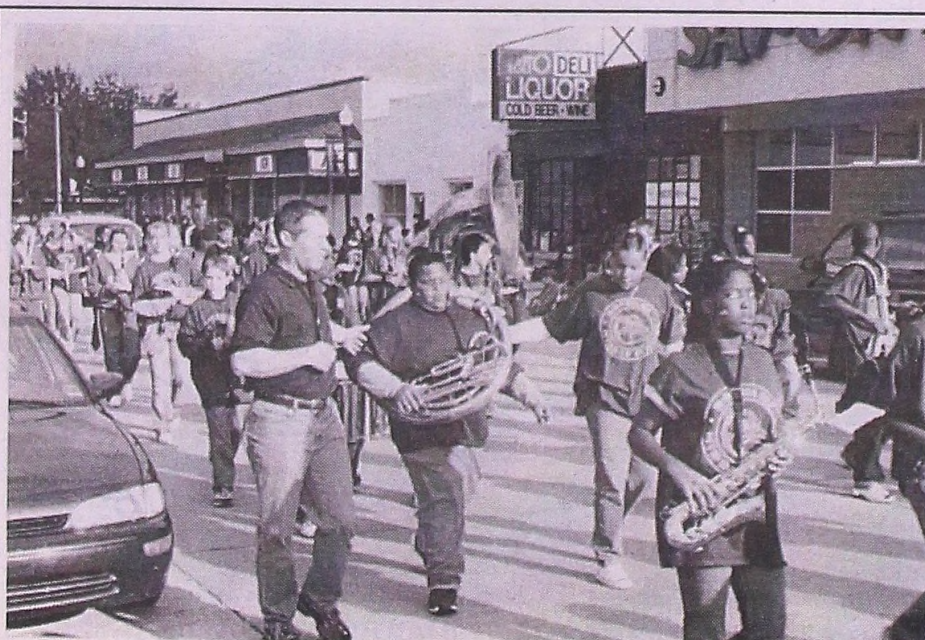
Students from Cory Elementary also showed a lot of school spirit.



The Halecreek Elementary Hawks were on the march.



The new Romulus Elementary Jaguars presented a patriotic group.



Director Mark Fernandez led the Middle School marching band.



Drum major Michael Sandusky with the High School marching band.

Homecoming Parade



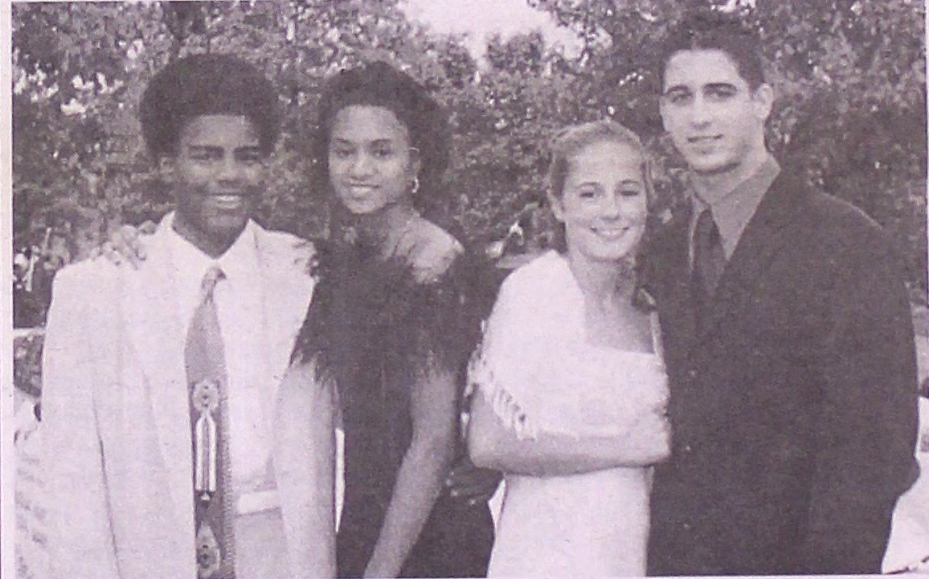
"Peter Pan," the juniors' parade entry, won the annual float competition.



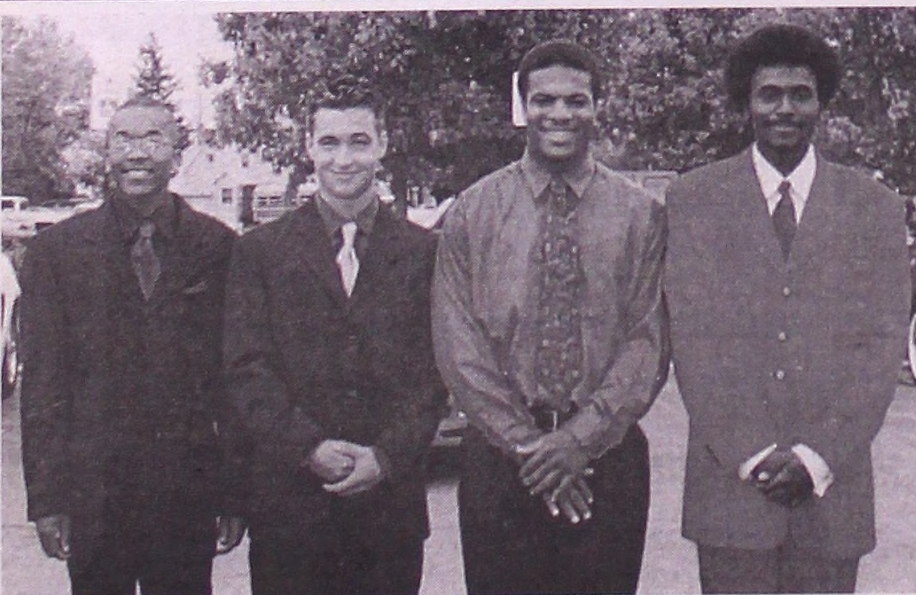
Other entries included the sophomores' "Rapunzel" float.



Grand Marshal Lynne Cadden (center) and School Board members April Frayer (left) and Cheryle Buckley liked the freshmen's "Puff" float.



(From left) Prince and Princess winners were Isaiah Warren and Natasha Murray (sophomores) and Katie Hale and Brenden Boyd (freshmen).



Male Court members included Roger Chapman (not pictured), as well as (from left) Jerome Gray, David Boyd, Fredrick Harbor, and Anson Long.



Female Court members were (from left) Kara Coughlin, Dana Noble, Antoinette Price, Andrea Gibson, and Deana Hunter.

Romulus Scores Better Than Charters

continued from page 1

Alison Cancillari, Director of Operations for Summit Academy, says that a true appraisal of the school's overall performance will not be possible until some baseline data can be gathered.

"We're only in our fourth year of operation, so all the students who took the MEAP last winter began their educational careers elsewhere. It won't be until our fifth year that we will begin to get data from students who have attended Summit since kindergarten."

At that time, she says, she expects to see a marked improvement in scores.

But many parents are skeptical that the charter schools could even begin to rival Romulus in the next few years.

"Just look at the most recent MEAP scores; ours are as much as *seven times better*," noted one mother who said she investigated Summit and Metro, but found both lacking. "Their facilities, staff, technology, and enrichment programs are enormously limited compared to what Romulus has to offer." □

School Taxes Lowered 1.5 Mills

continued from page 1

"We are trying to be sensitive to homeowner concerns as we simultaneously continue to improve our MEAP scores, upgrade our educational programs, and modernize our facilities," said Joel R. Carr, Superintendent.

Board of Education President Alan Lambert noted, "The Board is now levying only 10.99 of the 16.6363 'hold harmless' mills that we have the authority to levy."

Vice-president Debbie Dick was also gratified by the Board's decision, stating, "With this reduction, we are now keeping the promise that we made to the voters two years ago, when we asked them to support our \$34-million bond proposal."

Lambert complimented the Central Office administration and his fellow Board members for "providing an excellent educational product and reducing costs at the same time." □

Letters to the Editor

continued from page 2

School on Sunday evening before the City Council meeting. She, too, is appalled and wants to right this wrong.

At the City Council meeting on September 24, 2001, Ms. Romak brought up the issue of the flags for the four blocks of Goddard Road in town and at the school. (Again, now the flag is flying on the flagpole on the side of the school.)

Mayor Oakley's response was evasive at best. First, he brought up the issue of vandalism; then he said that Romulus would have to put the flags on the street lights because they must never be in the dark, and the holders for the flags would have to be high enough to avoid vandalism; then he said, "Maybe we should just wait and see if there is closure on this issue before we put up flags," as if this is going to be a quick, in-and-out battle. He finally decided to

bring the issue up at a future meeting.

What is this showing our children (our future)? That it is all right to say we are patriotic and believe in our freedoms and in these United States, but not have to really show it.

It is "not just Wayne"; it is all towns and cities around the U.S. that are taking pride in their country, yet we – "The Gateway to the World" – have nothing to show our feelings toward this tragedy, and to show that our city supports our sons, daughters, fathers, and mothers.

Mayor Oakley can boast of all the good he has done for Romulus and all the money he has saved us, but he will not spend money for flags that can be used again and again after the "State of Crisis" is over for all our national events.

Is this the mayor you want for Romulus?

Julie Drennan-Broilo □

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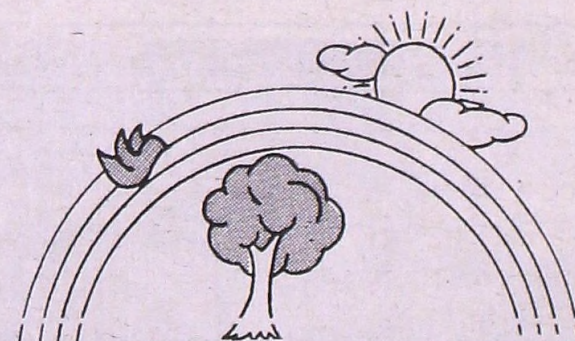
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Community Calendar

- **Annual Crop Walk Fights Hunger** — Community United Methodist Church of Romulus invites local residents to take part in the Romulus-Belleville area's 19th annual Crop Walk fund-raiser to fight hunger both locally and around the world. The event is set for Sunday, October 7, at 1 p.m. Walkers will meet at the church (located at 11166 Olive, corner of Bibbins). To learn more about becoming a walker or making a pledge, call 734-941-0736.
- **St. Aloysius Youth Groups Welcomes New Members** — The St. Aloysius Youth Group — open to all area residents ages six through teens (most activities divided into junior and senior groups) — invites interested young people to attend its next meeting, to be held in the Church basement on Sunday, October 7, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. The group meets at least twice monthly to have fun socializing, performing community-service work, and exploring and building relationships with God and fellow members. Special activities throughout the year include white-water rafting, attending week-end retreats, and taking part in games such as laser tag, six flags, glow bowling, and more. Community-service projects include the March of Dimes Walk America and Crop Walk, among others. For more information, contact Julie Wadsworth or Stacey Prater at 734-941-3340 any weekday between 7:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.
- **Parenting Groups Meet** — Hegira Prevention Programs will sponsor the following parenting group meetings this fall: **"How To Talk So Kids Will Listen, and Listen So Kids Will Talk"** (1 to 3 p.m. Mondays, October 8–November 12, at Oakwood Obstetrics & Gynecology, 15777 Northline Road, Suite 101, Southgate, or 9 to 11 a.m. Tuesdays, October 9–November 20, at the Taylor Department of Public Health/WIC Office, 26650 Eureka Road) and **"Parents Who Care"** for parents of teens (1 to 3 p.m. Tuesdays, October 9–November 20, at Romulus Help Center, 9340 Wayne Road, Suite A). Fees (for book and/or materials) are \$15 for "How To Talk"; \$10 for "Parents Who Care." For more information about these or other programs, call 734-513-7598.
- **Vegetarian Taste Fest** — The public is invited to sample delicious meatless dishes and collect free recipes at a Vegetarian Taste Fest, to be held in the Inkster Recreation Complex (2025 Middlebelt Road) from 2 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, October 14. Donation: \$4 for adults, \$2 for children. For more information, call 313-277-5757.
- **Romulus Democratic Club** — The Romulus Democratic Club will meet at the UAW Union Hall, Local #157 (29841 Van Born Road) at 7 p.m. on Monday, October 15. The meeting will focus on Democratic candidates running for office in November. Pizza and refreshments will be served. For more information, call Jack H. Trumble, Club President, at 734-941-3513.
- **Dinner/Discussion Puts Focus on "Learning to Give"** — The 21st Century Health Committee's next "Health, Family, and You" dinner/discussion program — to be held at Wick Elementary on Thursday, October 18, from 6 to 7 p.m. — will focus on the topic of "Learning to Give: An Action of the Heart, a Project for the Mind." Highlights will include prize raffles. To register for this free program, call 734-722-1050, ext. 273.
- **Health-o-Rama** — The Nurses' Guild of First Baptist Church (11412 Delano, Romulus) will host a Health Fair sponsored by Oakwood Community Healthcare System on Sunday, October 28, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. The event will include a blood-pressure/cholesterol screening and pneumonia/influenza immunizations. Blood-pressure screenings are complimentary. Fees for the other services are: pneumonia immunization — \$25; influenza immunization — \$15; and cholesterol screening — \$4 (fasting not required). Some fees covered by Medicare Part B (must bring Medicare card). For additional information, call 734-941-3594 or 941-0225.
- **RHS Class of '71 Hosts 30-year Reunion** — Romulus High School's Class of 1971 will host its 30-year reunion at the Romulus DoubleTree Hotel on Saturday, November 10, beginning at 6 p.m. Tickets for the evening of dinner and dancing (with cash bar, on-site photographer) are \$35 per person, and must be purchased in advance. For more information, or to make your reservation, contact Pat Bell-Williams at 734-729-4240 or Sheila (Oakley) Stasak at 734-753-4031.

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar,
mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038;
FAX it to us at 941-4874; or call 941-1907 or 941-3113

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REGULAR MEETING, SEPTEMBER 10, 2001

The Regular Meeting of the Romulus Board of Education held on Monday, September 10, 2001, was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Vice-president Debbie Dick.

Roll call showed members Debbie Dick, April Frayer, Betty Lenossi, and Billy McCraight present. Members Alan Lambert, Cheryle Buckley, and Michael Woods excused. All administrators were present.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice-president Dick.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

9/01/1 Moved by Lenossi supported by Buckley to approve the Agenda as presented and amended. Ayes: 4. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

9/01/2 Moved by McCraight supported by Lenossi that the Board approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held August 27, 2001, as amended. Ayes: 4. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Board member Michael Woods enters.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Personnel Actions

Mr. Edward Clark, Director of Human Resources, offered the following personnel actions for Board information:

Employment (FYI): Antoinette Brothers, Paraprofessional – Title I, Merriman Elementary, Effective September 4, 2001; and Angelica Richardson, Technical Aide for Hospitality and Food Service (Culinary Arts), Romulus High School, Effective September 10, 2001.

Termination (FYI): Dallas Mitchell, Kindergarten Aide, Merriman Elementary, Effective August 27, 2001; Melissa Morgan, Science, Community High School, Effective August 27, 2001; Marcia Stewart, Media Tech, Romulus High School, Effective September 4, 2001; and Darrick Todd, Mathematics, Community High School, Effective August 27, 2001.

Bills for Payment

9/01/3 Moved by Lenossi supported by Frayer that the Board approve the Bills for Payment as presented by Mr. William A. Routhier, Director of Finance. Ayes: 5. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Compact – Parent/Community Committee

Ms. Phyllis Adkins, Mr. Sam Bonam, Mr. Richard Marsh, Ms. Williams, and Rev. Rita Talley appeared before the Board of Education, updating Board with regard to School/Community Committee and initiatives.

Change Orders

9/01/4 Moved by Lenossi supported by Frayer that the Board of Education approve the July Change Orders for \$48,131.00 as presented. Ayes: 5. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Telephone System Upgrade

9/01/5 Moved by McCraight supported by Lenossi that the Board of Education approve the low bidder, Sprint, for their cost of \$280,226.00 to upgrade the District Voice Communication System. Ayes: 5. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

M.A.I.S.L. Director

9/01/6 Moved by Woods supported by Lenossi that the Board of Education appoint Mr. Edward Clark as Alternate Director to the M.A.I.S.L. Risk Management Trust. Ayes: 5. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Construction Update

Mr. Kevin Weldman, Barton Malow, gave a summary to the Board of Education with regard to construction and reviewed the construction manager's report as presented.

Wayne County Community College Millage

9/01/7 Moved by McCraight supported by Frayer to adopt the attached resolution authorizing a November 6, 2001 millage for Wayne County Community College. Ayes: 5. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Communications and Expressions from the Public

Mr. Troy LaPorte, parent from Barth Elementary, questioned the providing of Day Care in schools. Mrs. Long raised a question as to the plan for Middle School/High School students riding the same bus.

Items of Interest from the Superintendent

Mr. Joel R. Carr, Superintendent, shared the following items of interest with members of the Board of Education: (1) Technology Grant Award Notification; (2) RESA – Superintendent Visitation; (3) Safe & Drug Free Grant Award; (4) MASB Fall Conference – Oct. 18–21; (5) Article – Closing Student Gap Opens Door to Conflict; (6) Thank You – Painters – Cory Elementary School; (7) Thank You – Lynne & Mike Cadden; (8) Thank You – Cheryle Willett – Garden City Public Schools; and (9) Communication – Jesse Meriweather.

QUESTIONS AND/OR CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS:

Mrs. Debbie Dick asked about Drug Free Grant – Supports DARE and Social Workers. Mrs. Dick asked about MEAP scores; Mr. Tom Dolan, Director of Curriculum, to report back as soon as scores are received by state.

EXECUTIVE SESSION/LEGAL MATTERS

9/01/8 Moved by Woods supported by Frayer to convene into executive session. Ayes: 5. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

9/01/9 Moved by Lenossi supported by Frayer that the meeting be adjourned. Ayes: 5. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Billy McCraight, Secretary
Romulus Board of Education

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NOTICE

NOTICE OF THE LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION OF THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF ROMULUS, COUNTY OF WAYNE, MICHIGAN, FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2001

To the qualified Electors of the City of Romulus, County of Wayne, State of Michigan:

Notice is hereby given that, in conformity with the *Michigan Election Law*, I, the undersigned City Clerk, will upon any day EXCEPT Sunday, a legal holiday, and the day of any regular or special election, receive for registration the name of any resident not registered, who may APPLY for such registration EXCEPT during the time intervening between the CLOSE of Registration and the General Election, for the purpose of voting on the following offices:

Mayor
Clerk
Treasurer
City Council

and the following proposal:

Wayne County Community College District Millage Proposal

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that registrations will be taken at any Secretary of State branch office or in the ROMULUS CITY CLERK'S OFFICE, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan, between the hours of:

Monday thru Friday – 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

AND THE LAST DAY TO REGISTER

Monday, October 8, 2001 – 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Every person who has the following qualifications, or will have those qualifications at the next election, shall be entitled to register:

1. A citizen of the United States, not less than 18 years of age.
2. A resident of the state for not less than 30 days.
3. A resident of the City of Romulus.

For the purpose of REVIEWING THE REGISTRATION LIST AND REGISTERING such of the qualified electors who shall properly apply therefor, the name of no person but an ACTUAL RESIDENT of the City of Romulus at the time of registration, and entitled under the Constitution to vote at the next election, if remaining such resident, shall be entered in the registration book.

This notice is given as provided for in Section 168.644 of the Michigan Election Laws as amended.

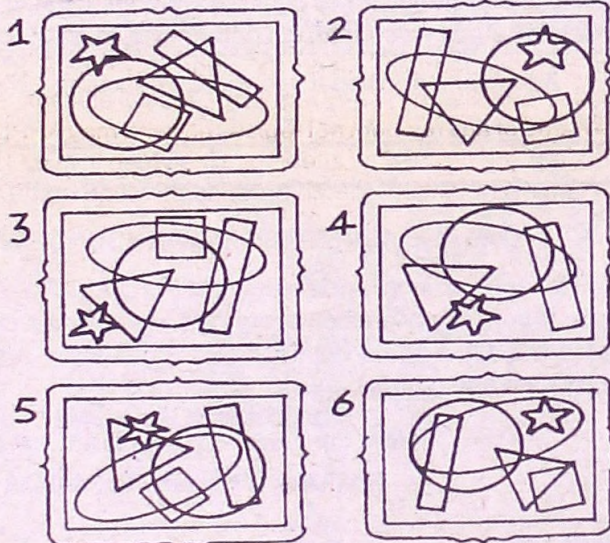
Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

PUBLISH: October 5, 2001



PICTURE POSER

WHICH PICTURE
IS THE ODD
ONE OUT?



NUMBER FOUR HAS NO SQUARE. - REMSNA

Fascinating facts

ANIMAL AMUSEMENTS

- Deer play a game like tag; the one who is "it" tags the others with his hooves.
- Badgers play leap-frog and turn somersaults in the grass.
- Fish have played jokes on aquarium attendants by squirting water at them.
- Penguins toboggan across ice on their stomachs.
- Adult squirrels love to play; some have been known to use pinecones and balls of paper in their games.

ANIMAL EXPRESSIONS

"Talking turkey" means getting down to business, but where did the expression originate?

Some say it comes from an exchange that took place during a hunting expedition taken by an Indian and a white man.

According to the legend, they caught a turkey and a buzzard.

The white man turned to the Indian and said: "You may have the buzzard and I will take the turkey. Or, I'll take the turkey and you have the buzzard."

The wise Indian listened quietly, and then replied: "You never once said turkey to me."

ANIMAL FACTS

- Elephants drink fifty gallons of water each day.
- The yak's milk is pink.
- One cricket sounds a note that is audible for almost a mile.
- Bees "air condition"

their hives by placing drops of honey or water around the hive, and then fanning their wings.

- Bats can zero in on prey as small as fruit flies — and can catch up to 1,200 in only an hour!

CHUCKLE TIME

Willy: "Doctor, Doctor, I was just bitten by my neighbor's dog, and I think it has rabies!"

Doctor: "Just sit down and stay calm; I'll be right with you."

Willy immediately starts to write on a piece of paper.

Doctor: "Don't worry, son, rabies is treatable nowadays. You don't have to make out your will."

Willy: "This isn't my will, Doctor. It's the list of people I'm going to bite!"

FOOD FACT

White pepper comes from black pepper.

On the vine, a peppercorn is neither black nor white. As it ripens, it turns red.

For black pepper, the berries are picked before they turn red, and are dried until the skin turns dark.

White pepper is left to mature on the vine. After harvesting, it is soaked to remove the dark outer skin, and the white peppercorns are then dried.

A REASON TO CELEBRATE

Winnie the Pooh will celebrate his 65th "birthday" on October 16th.

DID YOU KNOW?

by AL

496

STONEHENGE, THE ANCIENT STONE CIRCLE, IS ESTIMATED TO BE AROUND 3,500 YEARS OLD. IT HAS BEEN SHOWN THAT BOTH SOLAR AND LUNAR ECLIPSES COULD BE PREDICTED USING THIS MONUMENT.

LACROSSE IS A GAME THAT WAS PLAYED BY THE INDIANS OF THE CANADA-NEW YORK STATE AREA EVEN BEFORE COLUMBUS REACHED THE NEW WORLD IN 1492. THE FRENCH NAMED IT AFTER ONE THEIR OWN GAMES.



THE CUCKOO DOESN'T MAKE A NEST OF ITS OWN. INSTEAD, IT LAYS AN EGG IN THE NEST OF ANOTHER BIRD WHOSE EGGS ARE THE SAME COLOR AS ITS. WHEN THE YOUNG CUCKOO HATCHES, IT KICKS OUT THE OTHER BIRD'S EGGS AND ITS NEW "MOTHER" THEN FEEDS IT!

Sassy Seniors

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Linda Norman, Senior Citizens Program Coordinator for the City of Romulus, and Melissa Morton, Manager of the Romulus Tower, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column.

(For more information about events at the Romulus Senior Center, located at 36515 Bibbins downtown, please call 734-942-6852.)

Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballot applications for the November 6 city election are now available in the Clerk's office at Romulus City Hall (11111 South Wayne Road at Goddard Road). For more information, call 734-942-7540.

"Straight Talk" with Basham

State Representative Ray Basham will be at the Romulus Senior Center at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, October 8, to talk with local seniors about their ideas and concerns. Refreshments will be served.

"Strides Against Breast Cancer"

It's not too late to sign up to walk in the October 13 "Strides Against Breast Cancer," which will take place on Belle Isle. Call or stop in for more information.

Flu Shots

Oakwood Hospital-Annapolis Center will be at the Romulus Senior Center to administer flu shots on Monday, October 29, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost is not yet known. Sign up at the Center.

Mammograms

The Karmanos mobile mammo-gram unit will be at the Romulus Senior Center on Friday, November 16, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Call for details.

Shopping

For a transportation fee of just \$1.50, Romulus seniors can ride the Center's van to shop at the Belleville Meijer on Thursday, October 11, at 9:30 a.m. Sign up at the Center.

Special Trips

Seniors interested in more information about these or other special trips that have been planned by the Romulus Senior Center should call Linda Norman at 734-942-6852.

- **Halloween Hoedown** (October 31; \$59);
- **Biloxi/New Orleans** (November 4-10; \$527);
- **Soaring Eagle Casino** (November 11; \$12);
- **Turtle Creek/Traverse Bay** (November 17-18; \$85);
- **Kewadin Casino/Sault Ste. Marie** (November 26-27; \$99); and
- **Holly Jolly Mystery** (December 1-3; \$399).

Weekly Programs

Besides the many special activities offered at the Romulus Senior Center, a number of regularly scheduled programs are also open to local senior citizens. They include:

- ceramics (Mondays, 1 and 6 p.m.),
- Club #1 (Tuesdays, 11 a.m.),
- bunco (Tuesdays, 1 p.m.),
- bingo (Wednesdays, 1 p.m.),
- "fun night" (Wednesdays, 5 p.m.),
- pinochle (Thursdays, 1 p.m.), and
- quilting (Thursdays, 7 p.m.).

Support Group Available

"We all experience loneliness, depression, and anger at various times," says the Senior Center's Linda Norman. "Often these feelings feed and grow when we are alone, but starve and weaken when we can draw strength from ourselves and others."

One great way to fight negative feelings is to join support groups such as the one that meets at the Center Mondays from 4 to 5 p.m. The group is open to all, and costs nothing to join.

Ask the Attorney

Local attorney Steve Robinson's monthly "Ask the Attorney" program – a free consultation service for Romulus senior citizens – has been scheduled for 3 to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, October 17. Both walk-ins (36515 Bibbins) and call-ins (734-942-6852) are welcome.

Transportation Update

Just a reminder about recent changes in the Romulus Senior Center's transportation program.

- Transportation is now available on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 - Transportation on Wednesdays and Fridays varies according to staff availability.
 - The cost to travel from one point in Romulus to another – round-trip or one-way – is \$1, with an additional \$.50 charge for each extra stop.
 - The round-trip cost from Romulus to the Annapolis Oakwood area is \$3.
 - The round-trip cost from Romulus to the Belleville Oakwood area is \$3.
 - The round-trip cost from Romulus to the Heritage Oakwood area is \$6.
 - It is advisable to make your appointment for pickup at least 24 to 48 hours in advance, since the schedule fills up quickly.
 - Special transportation requests may be approved.
 - There is still no charge for transportation to and from the Senior Center.
- To make your appointment, please call 734-942-6852. □

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

If you are a resident of Romulus, *The Romulus News* will be happy to print an announcement of your new addition (child or grandchild). If possible, please enclose a photograph of your new arrival. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

THE ROMULUS NEWS

P.O. Box 74038
Romulus, Michigan 48174-0038

Baby's Name _____
Birthdate _____ Time _____
Weight _____ Length _____
Birthplace _____
Parents _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Siblings _____

Maternal Grandparents _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Paternal Grandparents _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions): _____

Attach any additional information concerning the birth to this form.

ENGAGEMENT/WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

If you, or your parents, are residents of Romulus, *The Romulus News* will be happy to print an announcement of your engagement or wedding. If possible, please enclose a photograph. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

THE ROMULUS NEWS

P.O. Box 74038
Romulus, Michigan 48174-0038

Bride's Name _____
City _____ State _____
Groom's Name _____
City _____ State _____
Bride's Parents _____
City _____ State _____
Groom's Parents _____
City _____ State _____
Bridesmaids _____
Groomsmen _____
Date of Engagement _____
Date of Wedding _____
Place _____
City _____ State _____
Reception _____
City _____ State _____
Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions): _____

Attach any additional information concerning the wedding or engagement to this form.

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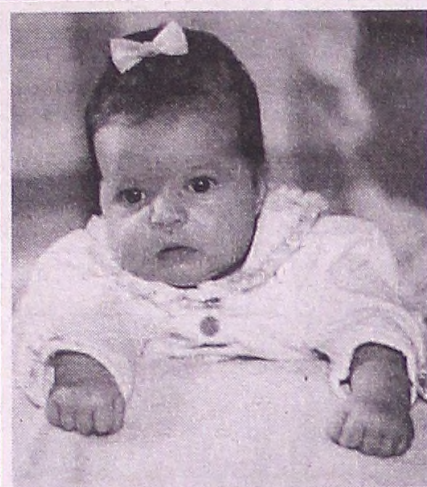
The Stork Arrived

Madolyn July Frederick

Proudly announcing the birth of their new daughter, Madolyn July Frederick, are Jerry and Suzie Frederick of Romulus, Michigan.

Madolyn was born in Oakwood Hospital (Dearborn, MI) at 10:13 a.m. on Friday, July 13, 2001, weighing in at 7 pounds, 6 ounces, and measuring 21 inches in length.

Among those giving the new arrival a warm welcome into the family were her paternal grandparents, Jerry and Judi Frederick, and her maternal grandmother, Barb Hoth (all of Romulus). □



Madolyn July Frederick

Just Married

Russell and Megan (Baisch) Milligan

Congratulations to newlyweds Russell and Megan (Baisch) Milligan, who were married on Sunday, August 26, 2001.

Russell is the son of Robert and Diane Milligan of Romulus. Megan's parents are Rodney and Doshie Baisch of Belleville.

The couple exchanged their vows in a ceremony held in the home of the bride.

Standing up with Russell was his best man, Robert Milligan, Jr. Megan was attended by her maid of honor, Lacie Slagle.

A reception immediately followed the ceremony. □



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Obituaries

Peggy Fay (Nichols) Hopkins

Peggy Fay (Nichols) Hopkins of Romulus, Michigan, died on Tuesday, September 25, 2001, at the age of 67.

The native of Nashville, Tennessee, was born on February 13, 1934.

Surviving Peggy are two sons, Ricky and Mark Hopkins; one daughter, Debra (Jimmy) Lee; one brother, Ed Nichols;

eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband, Wilson Ray Hopkins.

A funeral service was held on Friday, September 28, at Harry J. Will Funeral Home (Wayne, MI), with Pastor Tom Stafford officiating. Burial was at Woodmere Cemetery (Detroit, MI).

Jennie O. Thomas

Jennie O. Thomas of Romulus, Michigan, died on Friday, September 21, 2001, at the age of 80.

The native of Cave City, Arkansas, was born on October 12, 1920.

Surviving Jennie are two sons, William E. (Romulus) and James D. Thomas (Las Vegas, NV); two daughters, Catherine (Edward) Duff (Westland, MI) and Ms. Linda J. Barley (Ro-

mulus); two sisters, Mardel Thompson (Joplin, MO) and Clara Lee (Pete) Davis (Niles, MI); 11 grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

A funeral service was held on Monday, September 24, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus), with Reverend Roger Lands (Glad Tidings Worship Center, Ypsilanti, MI) officiating. Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock).



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